

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3911

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR HK CH

SUBJ: HONG KONG AND THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT

1. AN ARTICLE IN THE PRC-OWNED WEN WEI PAO HAS REMINDED ITS HONG KONG READERSHIP THAT THEY ARE NOT EXEMPTED FROM THE CALL TO STUDY AND TO COMPREHEND THE THEORY OF THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT. A FEBRUARY 20 "SPECIAL COLUMN" ENTITLED "STUDY CURRENT AFFAIRS" DECLARED THAT THE FEBRUARY 9 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL ON THE SUBJECT IS "AN IMPORTANT ARTICLE" AND DISCUSSED THE ARTICLE'S SIGNIFICANCE (SEE HONG KONG 1479).

2. TO DRIVE HOME HIS MESSAGE, THE COLUMNIST ASKS RHETORICAL-
LY, "SHOULD WE IN HONG KONG ALSO STUDY THE THEORY OF THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT?" AND THEN REPLIES, "THE ANSWER IS YES". INDIRECTLY CHIDING LOCAL HONG KONG COMMUNISTS, HE REJECTS THE NOTION ALLEGEDLY HELD BY SOME THAT THE 4TH NPC WOULD SIGNAL THE END OF CLASS STRUGGLE AND THE BEGINNING OF A QUIET AND PEACEFUL POLITICAL SCENE IN CHINA.

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SUCH, HE SUGGESTS, WILL NEVER HAPPEN. THE AUTHOR FURTHER

CONTENDS THAT THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT IN CHINA IS "UNPRECEDENTLY CONSOLIDATED", BUT HE WARNS " THE SOIL THAT BREEDS REVISIONISM STILL REMAINS AND THEREFORE STRUGGLE TO PREVENT ITS RESURGENCE IS INDISPENSIBLE". AS A STUDY GUIDE FOR HONG KONG RESIDENTS, THE AUTHOR OFFERS AND ILLUSTRATION: "FOR EXAMPLE, ONLY THROUGH THE STUDY OF THE THEORY OF THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT CAN WE UNDERSTAND THE FOUR GREAT TASKS OF THE PROLETARIAT; NAMELY, SUPPRESSION OF RESISTANCE BY THE OVERTHROWN LANDLORD BOURGEOISE; PREVENTION OF IMPERIALISM AND SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM; STRUGGLE AGAINST NEWLY-EMERGING BOURGEOISE CAPITALIST FORCES AND CAPITALIST TENDENCIES; AND RESTRICTION OF THOSE BOURGEOISE RIGHTS WHICH STILL REMAIN. ONLY WHEN WE ACHIEVE THESE FOUR ASPECTS CAN WE CONTINUOUSLY ELIMINATE THE SOIL THAT BREEDS REVISIONISM."

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, ON FEBRUARY 23, BOTH WEN WEI PAO AND TA KUNG PAO, THE COLONY'S OTHER MAJOR PRC-OWNED NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED THE ENTIRE FRONTPAGE AND MORE TO THE QUOTATIONS FROM MARX, ENGLES, AND LENIN, AND TO THE " SPECIAL BOX" WITH THE JOINT PEOPLE'S DAILY-RED FLAG EDITORS' NOTE CITING MAO'S RECENT "IMPORTANT INSTRUCTION ON THEORY" WHICH WERE CARRIED BY PEOPLE'S DAILY ON FEBRUARY 22 (HONG KONG 1989).

4. COMMENT: WE DO NOT RECALL THE HONG KONG COMMUNIST PRESS CALLING FOR SUCH LOCAL STUDY DURING LAST YEAR'S ANTI-LIN/CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN AND THIS PRESENT SIGNALLING MAY MEAN THAT THE CURRENTLY UNFOLDING IDEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION IS EXPECTED TO BE OF FUNDAMENTAL AND LONG-TERM IMPORTANCE. IT MAY MEAN, TOO, THAT THOSE IN HONG KONG WHO LOOK TO THE MAINLAND ARE BEING TOLD IT WOULD BE WRONG TO EXPECT (OR TO TALK TOO LOUDLY ABOUT) AN EARLY END TO POLITICAL STRUGGLE IN CHINA.
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